Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PC-15 M-03 A-01 SY-10 AID-20

IGA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 EB-11 FAA-00

RSR-01 /172 W

----- 064473

R 121050Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2846

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

CONFIDENTIAL KAMPALA 2261

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC PFOR UG US

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF PCV'S AT ENTEBBE

REF: NAIROBI 4525

1. I AM NO EXPERT ON CIVIL AVIATION PROCEDURES, BUT OKOT'S "JUSTIFICATION" FOR DETENTION OF FLT AND PAX AT ENTEBBE, I.E.N "DESTINATION INFO-

MATION DISCREPANCY" IS NOTHING LESS THAN
POPPYCOCK, IN MY OPINION. DESTINATION OF CHARTER FLIGHT WAS
BUJUMBURA, AND WE HAVE HAD NO INDICATION THAT EAA FAILED TO FILE
THAT DESTINATION WITH ALL APPROPRIATE CIVIL AIR AUTHORITIES.
FACT THAT PASSENGERS WERE GOING ON TO BUKAVU FROM BUJUMBURA,
ON A DIFFERENT CHARTER FLIGHT, WOULD APPEAR TO BE OF NO
LEGITIMATE INTEREST OR CONCERN TO UGANDA GOVERNMENT. SEEMS TO
ME THAT OKOT HAS UNDERTAKEN TO PARTICIPATE IN A CONSPIRACY
WITH GOU TO CREATE A "REASONABLE" BASIS FOR AMIN'S ACTION IN
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RECALLING THE FLIGHT AND DETAINING THE PASSENGERS FOR SOME

55 HOURS.

2. SHOULD NOTE IN THIS CONNECTION THAT EAA REGIONAL MANAGER TOLD ME AT ENTEBBE ON JULY 7, JUST AFTER HE HAD COMPLETED A PHONE CALL TO OKOT IN NAIROBI, THAT OKOT (WHO IS A UGANDAN) AND AMIN ARE GREAT FRIENDS, SO IF ANYBODY COULD ARRANGE THE CLEARANCE FOR THE CHARTER TO PROCEED AS PLANNED TO BUJUMBURA IT WOULD BE OKOT. REGIONAL MANAGER MADE THIS STATEMENT TO ME ABOUT 48 HOURS BEFORE THE PCV'S WERE EVENTUALLY ALLOWED TO DEPART FOR KINSHASA, SO OKOT WAS NOT AS EFFECTIVE AS PREDICTED. HOWEVER, IT WOULD SEEM HIS REPUTED FRIENDSHIP IS NOW TO RESULT IN THE MANUFACTURE OF A COVER STORY TO MAKE AMIN APPEAR TO BE LESS OF A FOOL THAN HE ACTUALLY IS.

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TAGS: CASC, PFOR, UG, US

To: STATE

Type: TE

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